



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/917,947	07/31/2001	Guido Kersten	KERS3001/JEK	1529

23364 7590 08/11/2005

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC  
625 SLATERS LANE  
FOURTH FLOOR  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER
----------

SHRADER, LAWRENCE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2193

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/917,947

Applicant(s)

KERSTEN ET AL.

Examiner

Lawrence Shrader

Art Unit

2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed by the Applicant on 6/22/2005.
2. The Applicant's arguments in the amendment have been fully considered, but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by the amendment.
3. Claims 1 – 7 have been presented for examination and they remain rejected.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 2, and 4 – 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazur, U.S. Patent 5,909,502 in view of Huang et al., U.S. Patent 6,766,056 (hereinafter referred to as Huang).

#### **In regard to claim 1:**

A bank note processing machine comprising:

*"sensors, a transport system including a singling unit and at least one stacking unit, an input/output device, and*

*a control device with an associated memory which controls the elements of the bank note processing machine by means of software and/or data stored in the memory,*

*an interface which makes it possible to couple memory systems of different kinds to the bank note processing machine in order to alter, supplement, or replace the software and/or data stored in the memory;*

*wherein the memory system has a drive and a storage medium which are suitable for optical and/or magnetic recording.*

*wherein the transport system transports single bank notes singled by the singling unit along the sensors to the at least one stacking unit according to an evaluation of data obtained by the sensors by the control device."*

Mazur discloses a bank note processing machine comprised of a sensor (Figure 1, ref. nos. 12, 14, 18, 32), a transport system (Figure 1, ref. no. 16), a singling unit (Figure 1, ref. no. 14) and a stacking unit (Figure 1, ref. no. 20), an input/output device, a control device (CPU), associated memory for control software (all illustrated in Figure 1 and associated text), and a memory interface for updating software from a different kind of memory (a PCMCIA interface column 8, lines 23 – 39, Figure 5), and a singling unit (Figure 1, ref. no 14), but does not explicitly disclose a drive and storage system suitable for optical and/or magnetic recording, although attaching a magnetic or optical storage device to a CPU through a PCMCIA interface is very well known in the art and could be considered inherent to a CPU controlled system. However, Huang discloses an image detection system (used for currency (bank note) image detection; column 5, lines 34 – 36) in a currency handling subsystem comprised of a floppy disk to record data output from the system or to load application software (column 22, lines 36 – 54, e.g., Figure 19). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the currency processor with a CPU and a PCMCIA connection as taught by Mazur with a magnetic disk or an magneto-optical device as taught by Huang, because one would be motivated to maintain a history file of the currency processing, and also to easily

Art Unit: 2193

process data in another location and then transmitted over a network as taught by Huang at column 22, lines 42 – 54, or to increase the options for the type of loading media that Huang in combination with the PCMCIA interface of Mazur would obviously allow.

**In regard to claim 2, incorporating the rejection of claim 1:**

*"...wherein that the interface is a standardized interface, in particular according to PCMCIA."*

The interface complies with the PCMCIA standard (column 8, lines 23 – 39, Figure 5).

**In regard to claim 4, incorporating the rejection of claim 1:**

*"...wherein the memory has a nonvolatile area, and after coupling of the memory system to the interface the software and/or data stored in the memory system are stored in the nonvolatile area."*

Mazur discloses a nonvolatile resident memory coupled to an interface for updating by the flash card (e.g., Figure 6, see refs. 30, 40, and 34).

**In regard to claim 5, incorporating the rejection of claim 1:**

*"...wherein that the memory has a volatile area, and after coupling of the memory system to the interface the software and/or data stored in the memory system are stored in the volatile area."*

Mazur discloses a volatile resident memory may be used (RAM) and coupled to an interface for updating by the flash card (column 6, lines 9 – 13).

**In regard to claim 6, incorporating the rejection of claim 1:**

*"...wherein data obtained in the bank note processing machine during operation are stored in the memory system."*

See Mazur Figure 6 for interaction between the encoder and the CPU.

Art Unit: 2193

**In regard to claim 7, incorporating the rejection of claim 1:**

*"...wherein the software and/or data stored in the memory system are stored in encoded form, and the controller is set up to decode the encoded software and/or data."*

Mazur discloses encoded an optical encoder interacting with the CPU in Figure 6.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2193

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lawrence Shrader whose telephone number is (571) 272-3734.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 08:00-16:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (571) 272-3719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lawrence Shrader  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2193

3 August 2005

  
ANIL KHATRI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER